

# DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS - ATASCADERO DUTY STATEMENT

## SENIOR PSYCHIATRIST, SPECIALIST

### 1. MAJOR TASKS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide advanced journey level psychiatric services to mentally ill patients; and to do other related work.

#### A. CLINICAL - 60%

1. **Performs psychiatric evaluations.**
2. **Provides clinical leadership** of the ID team in formulating diagnosis according to the DSM-5, and treatment plans based on identified clinical problems, consistent with Department of State Hospitals (DSH) and Department of State Hospitals-Atascadero (DSH-A) guidelines and policies.
3. **As primary provider of care, writes orders for admission, transfer, discharge, medications, restraints and seclusion, suicide precautions, etc., as indicated**, according to current DSH and DSH-A guidelines and policies. Evaluates effects of medication on physical and mental status of patients.
4. Meets at least monthly with each patient to review his physical and mental status and medication. Meets with each patient and reviews his clinical condition, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis every 60 or 90 days in conjunction with his scheduled treatment planning conference. Participates in a unit's shift change meetings to exchange information about patients' treatments and to provide direction as clinically indicated.
5. Provides individual psychotherapy.
6. **Provides consultation on psychopharmacology and restraint/seclusion issues when so requested.**

7. Interacts with unit staff and patients on a variety of daily psychiatric issues, i.e., a patient who requests to meet with a psychiatrist or whom staff refer because of change of status, behavioral changes, or clinical deterioration.
8. **Evaluates assaultive incidents.**
9. **Evaluates and attends to suicide threats, attempts, or self-harm.**
10. Provides progress notes, Recommended Continuing Care Plan/Discharge Summary, and other documentation as required.
11. Meets with patients' families as indicated.
12. **Prepares court reports whenever indicated.**
13. **Appears and provides expert testimony in Superior Court whenever subpoenaed to do so.**
14. As permitted by law or with patient's approval, responds to and discusses appropriate matters with qualified others such as lawyers, judges, probation officers, community mental health workers, etc.
15. **Communicates effectively in spoken and written language** with patients, staff and the courts.

**B. FORENSIC - 20%**

1. **Provide part-time consultative services for Forensic Services/Legal Department, including Keyhea referrals, and other special consults as needed.**
2. Provides consultant training to Programs and Departments as requested.

3. Provide monitoring of Staff Psychiatrists for compliance with clinical requirements and mandates.

**C. ADMINISTRATIVE - 20%**

1. Participates in medical staff activities and serves on committees.
2. Advises and assists the Executive Director and/or the Medical Director, as requested, on hospital administration issues.
3. Meets regularly with program management and reviews program goals, plans, treatment issues, and effectiveness.
4. Performs qualitative and quantitative audits to meet State Licensing and Joint Commission standards.
5. Participates in unit management meetings involving patient issues and maintenance of therapeutic milieu.
6. Participates in continuing medical education and in approved research.
7. Provides inservice training such as lectures and informal talks or consultations with staff.
8. May supervise Residents, Fellows, and other trainees.
9. **Provides preceptorship or proctorship for new Staff Psychiatrists, and peer review for all Staff Psychiatrists, as assigned.**
10. Participates in statewide committee meetings whenever assigned.
11. Carries out other duties and assignments as the Medical Director directs.

**2. SUPERVISION RECEIVED**

The Medical Director has delegated supervision of the Senior Psychiatrist, Specialist in the following way:

**ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

The Assistant Medical Director exercises direct supervision over the assignment and clinical work of the Senior Psychiatrist, Specialist.

Duty Statement - Senior Psychiatrist, Specialist

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## **MEDICAL STAFF**

A Senior Psychiatrist, Specialist is a member of the organized Medical Staff of Atascadero State Hospital and is thus responsible to the Chief of Medical Staff for all activities which are within the scope of the Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules and Regulations.

### **3. SUPERVISION EXERCISED**

None.

### **4. KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES**

#### **KNOWLEDGE OF:**

Principles and methods of psychiatry, general medicine, and surgery and skill in their application; current developments in the field of psychiatry; mental hospital organization and procedures; principles and application of psychiatric social work, clinical psychology, physical therapy, various rehabilitation therapies, and other ancillary medical services; psychiatric research methods and techniques; principles, methods, and objectives of training treatment personnel.

#### **ABILITY TO:**

Direct the work of others; instruct in the principles and practices of psychiatry; interpret laboratory analyses and x-rays; prepare and supervise the preparation of case histories and the keeping of hospital records. Coordinate and participate in psychiatric research; analyze situations accurately and take effective action.

### **5. REQUIRED COMPETENCIES**

#### **INFECTION CONTROL**

Applies knowledge of correct methods for controlling the spread of pathogens appropriate to job class and assignment.

#### **SAFETY**

Actively supports a safe and hazard free workplace through practice of personal safety and vigilance in the identification of safety or security hazards.

#### **CPR**

Maintains current certification.

**AGE SPECIFIC**

Provides services commensurate with age of patients/clients being served. Demonstrates knowledge of growth and development of the following age categories:

: Adult : Geriatric

**MANAGEMENT OF ASSAULTIVE BEHAVIOR**

Applies and demonstrates knowledge of correct methods of Therapeutic Intervention Strategies (TSI).

**RESTRAINT/SECLUSION**

Demonstrates knowledge of criteria and appropriately uses, applies, and removes restraint and/or seclusion.

**CULTURAL AWARENESS**

Demonstrates awareness to multicultural issues in the workplace which enable an employee to work effectively.

**SITE SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES**

Effectively completes forensic evaluations and court testimony. Provide useful supervision and dictate information to trainees and others.

**RELATIONSHIP SECURITY**

Demonstrates professional interactions with patients and maintains therapeutic boundaries.

**TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY**

Maintains knowledge of appropriate state laws, rules and regulations as needed for the hospital forensic workload.

**6. LICENSE OR CERTIFICATION**

It is an employee's responsibility to maintain a license, credential, or required registration pertinent to his/her classification on a current basis. Any failure to do so may result in termination from Civil Service. Employees in this classification must:

- ◆ Possess the legal requirements for the practice of medicine in California as determined by the Medical Board of California or the Osteopathic Medical Board of California.

**7. TRAINING** - Training Category = 03

An employee is required to keep current with the all required training.

**8. WORKING CONDITIONS (FLSA)**

The employee is required to work any shift and schedule in a variety of settings throughout the hospital and may be required to work overtime and float to other work locations as determined by the operational needs of the hospital. An employee is required to have an annual health review and repeat health reviews whenever necessary to ascertain that he/she is free from symptoms indicating the presence of infection and can safely perform his/her essential job functions.

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Senior Psychiatrist, Specialist

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Date

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Assistant Medical Director

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Date

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Medical Director

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Date